





to take part in the festivities of the Sons of St. Patrick, who soon became convinced of his ardent affection for the Green Isle. His life, in fact, is a series of coincidences, all pointing to some fatal which is inexorably driving him to forgo the pleasures of retirement for the sake of saving the Whig Party from dissolution, his Country from ruin!

It remains to be seen, whether the Whig National Convention will ratify the nomination thus considerably made for them. The Public is at least assured on one point: Clay considers himself a candidate, and, if we are to judge from the tone of his manifesto, the candidate of the Whig party. Now, a word or two on a point in which we are peculiarly interested. Mr. Clay insinuates, on what ground we know not, the idea of a certain affiliation between himself and the "free States." His friends have represented to him that his withdrawal might lead to the dissolution of the Whig party, "especially in the free States;" that "Ohio would give her vote to no candidate residing in the slave States but me;" &c. Without committing himself by a single expression unfavorable to slavery, he says just enough to suggest the idea that he is the only Southern man to whom the free States can look in this crisis, when slavery is seeking to curse a new empire by its blasting presence.

Now, we put it to every honest-minded Whig in the country, North and South, will you vote for a man whose opinions on this subject are unknown? Other candidates for public favor have been obliged to explain their views—why allow Mr. Clay to be an exception? A Treaty for the acquisition of an immense territory is now before the Mexican Congress; if it has not been already ratified. Ask Mr. Clay what are his views as to the institutions which should take root in this new territory. He has told us that he has no desire for the Union, a score of them. That is not the question. Territory being acquired, what ought to be done? Will you spread over it the stigma of the ordinance of 1787, or the blackness of slavery? Answer this! Let Mr. Clay say, whether slavery can legally exist otherwise than by positive law—whether Congress can grant its assent to the passage of such a law by a Territorial Legislature—whether slavery can be introduced into the territory to be acquired from Mexico, except by law—whether Congress has not the right, and is not bound, to prohibit its introduction—whether all new territory ought not to be consecrated as the Home of Freemen and Free Institutions alone? Not a word has been dropped, which can give a clue to his opinions or policy in relation to these questions. And will intelligent Whigs, to use a rough expression, "go it blind?" Is this transcendentally important question of Free Labor and Free Soil to be indefinitely postponed, because Henry Clay, the only Southern man the Whigs of Ohio will vote for, does not find it convenient to declare his opinions concerning it? Is Truth, is Human Liberty, the rights of Labor, the perpetual well-being of the millions upon millions who are destined to throng the immense regions of New Mexico and California, all to be sacrificed, that Henry Clay may be made President?

We shall see.

For the National Era.

### THE EARTH'S FUTURITY.

I am looking from my heart, through cloudy skies  
and stormy years,  
And the damp and foggy Present shrouds me  
like a mist of tears.  
Nought I see, yet mystic murmurs now my straining  
spirit hears.

Murmurs like the solemn shivering of the trem-  
bling forest leaves;  
While the muffled crash of thunder through  
the roiling darkness—heav-  
Ere the flaming bolt of lightning 'mid the crashing  
heaving clouds.

And a mighty Tumour, like sultriness, o'erways  
me as a wing,  
Like the blended wings of cherubim, while fear-  
fully sing—

And most fearfully, like Samuel, to the altar foot  
I cling.

To the foot of that dread altar which in heaven  
wears its head,  
While the clouds, like rolling billows, over it bo-  
und, and the tempests roar,  
Like the darkness round the Stygian shore—the  
darkness of the dead!

At the foot of this dread altar, kneel I now with  
clasped hands,  
And my bosom smites the darkness, as a bellow  
beats the sandal.  
When the ocean, all behind it, drives it onward  
to the strands.

Thus the ocean of my longings forces on my sur-  
ing heart,  
Till the darkness seems to crumble—crumble  
heavily apart;

And but a foot, it from chaos, golden paradise  
I start.

Lo! the mountainous Tumour falls from me—  
falls from off my mounting soul,  
As if Earth from Titan Atas should with noise-  
less motion roll:  
And, behold! it beats the heavens like a wondrous  
flaming scroll!

Like as if the hurrying thunderbolts, in viewless  
fingers held,  
While the clouds burst upon the azure, were to mor-  
tal language quaffed!

Straightway, now, all human Error from my spirit  
is dispelled.

And I know this towering altar is Jehovah's throne,  
on earth,

And the billowy clouds around it hide the Fu-  
ture's mighty birth:

This I read amid the flaming Thought that spans  
the heavens' girth.

Lo! that thought is man's Redemption—man's ex-  
franchisement from wrong—

When the Earth to all God's children shall be-  
long, and the world belong:

And the weak shall rest securely on the bosom of  
the strong.

Like an endless fire, unquenched, burns that

Tumour, before mine eyes—

And my soul's electric flashes would eternally  
uprise;

Rise and mingle with the Prophecy that belts the  
Future's skies.

GENERAL TAYLOR AGAIN.

Two more letters from General Taylor! The  
following is stated to have been written to a mem-  
ber of the late Democratic Convention in Ken-  
tucky, and its authenticity is certified by Messrs.  
J. Burris, J. J. Henderson, D. E. Hendrickson,  
and William Hendrickson.

BATON ROUGE, (La.) Feb. 6, 1848.

"DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 12th ultimo, in  
relation to the next Chief Magistrate of the coun-  
try, has just reached me; in reply to which, I have  
done, as far as I am concerned, I have not  
changed the opinion which I expressed in my  
letter to you.

At the same time, such has been the indications of  
the Minister of the Interior, breaking up the dis-  
ciplines of the National Guard, the commandants  
of which were conservatives, and fusing them in  
the general mass. These companies resisted,  
sent a deputation to the Government, but, not  
meeting with success, announced their purpose to  
return the next day, with arms. The words were  
no sooner spoken than they were carried throughout  
the city, and the working men, to the number  
of 100,000, assembled early the next day, and  
completely closed up the way to the Hotel de Ville,  
so that the disaffected National Guards, on approach-  
ing, found themselves literally locked out of  
the city, and dispersed.

The rain which caused me to murmur came at a  
fortunate moment to save my life, and preserve to  
me my property."

"I regret to inform you, in reply, that I deem  
it to be inconsistent with the position which I  
have long since assumed in relation to such sub-  
jects, to attempt to satisfy your inquiries; and  
that, if I desired to do so, it would be an exception  
in favor of you, my dear want of time at  
the present moment would not permit me to  
give you satisfactory or even intelligible answers  
to your numerous questions.

"I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient ser-  
vant,

"Z. TAYLOR  
To Mr. John W. King, near Bayou Sara."

FRANCE.

We give in another column the address on  
peace, presented to the French Government by  
Joseph Sturge and others, and the reply of La-  
marque. There is another question which we  
have forced upon the Government, which cannot  
be easily disposed of—the question of labor. The  
following paragraphs in relation to this we copy  
from the *London News-Herald*.

"A report has been published of the first two  
sittings of the Government commission for regu-  
lating the affairs of the workmen. At the first  
sitting, M. Louis Blanc explained the motive of  
the Government before their first discussion,  
mentioning the hours of labor, &c. &c. &c.

"The trial was most animated and interesting.  
Shy and Harlan covered themselves with  
glory while the others were unable to vindicate  
what could only confer a *distinction* for  
C. M. Clay & the Hon. Henry Clay and his  
son, James B. Clay, fall to the amount of  
\$2,500."

We also notice in the same paper a very pur-  
gent letter from C. M. Clay to his relative, which  
we shall publish in our next, as a part of the history of  
the times.

APPROPRIATION FOR COLORED SCHOOLS IN NEW YORK.

"We are requested to give insertion to the  
following extract from a speech of Mr. Clay:

"Friend Smith. Permit me through you to  
call the attention of the colored people of this  
State to the following law, appropriating a sum of  
money to defray the expense of schools for the  
exclusive instruction of colored children. Passed  
May 12, 1847.

"There shall be paid, from the income of the  
United States, to each incorporated village which shall, during one  
year from the passage of this act, support for  
three months or more a school for the exclusive  
instruction of colored children, the sum of twelve  
hundred dollars for each, and for each additional  
one thousand dollars for each additional child.  
There shall be no deduction six months to be applied  
to defraying the expenses thereof; but no money shall  
be paid, as aforesaid, for any month during  
which the number of scholars attending such  
school shall be less than ten; and for each month  
in which there is less than one scholar, the sum of  
one hundred dollars shall be deducted from the  
sum of twelve hundred dollars.

"I find, by inquiry at the Comptroller's office, that but three schools have availed themselves  
of the "Liberty feeling," and helps on the good  
cause. A year ago, this speech would not have  
been made, and, if made, it would not have been  
cheered.

"Such progress and prospects in this quarter!  
But "short and sweet" is my motto—therefore, I  
close. Yours truly, CRISIS.

(C. M. Clay) and his principal witness, the pub-  
lisher, William Neal, and the two other counsel,  
Messrs. J. Speed Smith and Garrett Davis, were  
absent. But Henry Clay, who had hurried home  
from his great electioneering tour, in order to  
attend the trials of the liberties of his State and coun-  
try, assisted by ex-Chief Justice George Robert-  
son, (the author of the "Secret Circular") T. F.  
Morgan, Mr. Professor of the Law School, and A.  
Wadsworth, of the Law School, of New Haven, and A.  
Woodbury, of the Law School, of New York, and  
Frankfort, Mr. Shy into a trial. Davis Harlan,  
Esq., of Frankfort, was called in to assist Mr. Shy.  
The trial was most animated and interesting.  
Shy and Harlan covered themselves with  
glory while the others were unable to vindicate  
what could only confer a *distinction* for

C. M. Clay & the Hon. Henry Clay and his  
son, James B. Clay, fall to the amount of  
\$2,500."

This is the true ground, and we hope the *Ex-  
aminer* may be vigorously sustained. We know  
not how any Anti-Slavery citizen of a free State  
can refuse his support to a Slave State paper, con-  
ducted on such principles. The *Examiner* is not  
only a most effectual Anti-Slavery paper, but one  
of the best of family papers. It is elevated in tone,  
liberal in spirit, and comprehensive in its views.

There are many Anti-Slavery men belonging to  
the Whig and Democratic parties who are sensitive  
in regard to their party relations. In the  
*Examiner* they will find a journal which holds  
itself aloof from all party contests.

For the National Era.

COMING OUT!

"Short and sweet" So you editors advise, al-  
beit you give us column articles. Well, I'll fol-  
low the advice, and scold at the example.

"What now, you ask? Why this, that we have  
not been able to make out our entire en-  
tire anti-slavery cause? And what of that? Nothing;  
except that we had some tall Anti-Slavery chaps  
and this I think, the important portion of the  
meeting.

"I made a speech a mile off; said that  
Henry Clay had ever been opposed to Slavery;  
that he (the orator) deplored its existence; that  
old as he was, he hoped to see the day when the  
curse should be rooted from the State; that he  
prayed God the Convention would fix a clause in  
the Constitution providing for the gradual extinc-  
tion of slavery.

"Then there was paid, from the income of the  
United States, to each incorporated village which shall, during one  
year from the passage of this act, support for  
three months or more a school for the exclusive  
instruction of colored children, the sum of twelve  
hundred dollars for each, and for each additional  
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one hundred dollars shall be deducted from the  
sum of twelve hundred dollars.

"I find, by inquiry at the Comptroller's office,  
that but three schools have availed themselves  
of the "Liberty feeling," and helps on the good  
cause. A year ago, this speech would not have  
been made, and, if made, it would not have been  
cheered.

"Such progress and prospects in this quarter!  
But "short and sweet" is my motto—therefore, I  
close. Yours truly, CRISIS.

Louisville, March 26, 1848.

THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

APRIL 11.

SENATE.—Mr. Johnson, of Maryland, presented  
a memorial from John S. Skinner, of New York,  
praying in behalf of the agriculturists of the  
country, an appropriation of money, to be apportioned  
under the direction of the State Governments, or  
as Congress may direct, to the establishment of  
institutions for instruction in geology, mineralogy,  
botany, and animal physiology, &c. Refer-  
red to the Committee on Agriculture, and ordered  
to be printed.

Memorial was presented; said that  
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THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

APRIL 12.

SENATE.—A memorial praying for certain alter-  
ations in the Tariff of 1846 was presented by  
Mr. Davis, of Massachusetts.

Several private bills were disposed of.

On motion of Mr. Badger, the Secretary of the  
Senate was instructed to purchase 2,000 additional  
copies of the Constitution of the United States, and  
on motion of Mr. Benton, 3,000 extra copies  
of the Fremont Court Report were referred to  
be printed. The Joint Committee on Printing was  
ordered to inquire into the expediency of re-  
pealing the law directing the manner of the  
public printing.

Memorial was presented—for the abolition of  
the slave trade, by Mr. Bradley; for the same,  
and for an appropriation of a portion of the pro-  
ceeds of the public lands for the gradual abolition  
of slavery throughout the United States, by Mr.  
Hale.

Various reports were made.

Mr. Hinnegan moved that so much of the Pres-  
ident's message as relates to the Amistad case be  
referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Agreed to.

The bill in relation to the California claims was  
discussed by Mr. Dayton at great length.

House.—A debate took place (of which we have  
given elsewhere quite a full report) on a motion of  
Mr. Palfrey to reconsider the resolution con-  
cerning the French Revolution.

The House then took up the bill making appropria-  
tion for the support of the Military Academy at  
West Point for the year ending June 30, 1849.  
It was read a third time, passed, and sent to the  
Senate. Appropriated \$141,472.

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stand on the same footing with the white voter. There were discriminations against them; and if there were any discriminations, they did not enjoy the privileges of citizenship.

Mr. PALFREY.—And, after being yielded,

begged leave to serve the gentleman in regard to New Hampshire. Free negroes voted in New Hampshire; and he would inform the gentleman that many of them were intelligent and respectable men. [A laugh.]

Mr. PALFREY.—How many of them had the gentleman ever seen on the jury, at the bar, on the bench of justice? Not one, he would undertake to say. And they could not marry a white woman. [A laugh.] And yet gentlemen came here and told them that they were free and equal. It was the fact anywhere. Look at Connecticut, in the very heart of New England. On a late occasion, in an ornate hall, a negro voted, she had denied them the right of suffrage. Look at New York, Pennsylvania, to every State in the Union where they were not entitled to the enjoyment of the rights of the white man, excepting their slaves. Go home (said he) and emancipate your free negroes. When you do that, we will listen to you with more patience. Until you have taken the bean out of your own eye, do not undertake to remove the mote from mine.

The House would concur—those who had paid attention to the speech—who had referred especially to the fact that he had referred exclusively to the fact that the Abolition Society of London had furnished Ogo with a ship, with men and money; and it was by this aid, thus furnished by persons belonging to associations precisely similar to those that existed here, that these negroes had been emancipated. He might be sure, he knew, that there was nothing perfect here below, in either the individual or the social state. He was far from making up his mind, however, as to what course to pursue; but he saw the gentleman from Virginia, when he was treating on this topic yesterday, but he saw the gentleman from Virginia was in much better hands than his own—he alluded to his colleague [Mr. Adams]—and he said, "I am not so good as he." Yet (said Mr. P.) said the word, and I do not take it back because of the sneer of gentlemen. The expression was unpremeditated, but the reception it met only attracted my attention to its propriety, not to the point which the gentleman had made. It might be, and I do not know, that some small knowledge of the fact, that there was not one of the old States which had advanced in prosperity with more steady, decided step than Virginia. He understood to say, that there was no State in which the progress of the negro had been so rapid and certain. He knew some of the new States had outstripped her. The cheapness of their lands, and many other circumstances which he could not now stay to discuss had stimulated them into rapid prosperity; a prosperity which he had never seen before. But he said, that in the old States of this Union, there was no State which had advanced in population and wealth with more steady step than Virginia. Even Massachusetts herself, with all the protection she had received from the General Government, was not to be compared with her. But he said, that in the old States, this was not so. In this, that Massachusetts was not too old to grow wiser; and she was growing wiser day by day, thank God. Massachusetts was a little younger than Virginia; and if he might draw an inference from her example, he had, and fallen from the gentleman from Virginia, he said that Virginia was too old to grow wiser.

The gentleman from Virginia had adverted to the marriage laws of Massachusetts, and he begged, if his recollection of what the gentleman from Virginia had said were correct, that the gentleman would correct him. Massachusetts saw that there were people within her borders of mingled blood. Mulattoes were born in Massachusetts. He presumed mulattoes were born in Virginia. There were mulattoes there in 1836, 1837, 1838, &c. He said that facts like these were well known to all. He said, that the Legislature of Massachusetts thought—*that* if there were to be persons born there of mingled blood, there should be no legal obstacle to their being honestly born; and so she declared by her laws some five or six years ago.

Mr. ASHURN wished to correct the gentleman, on one point. Ogée's mission, he presumed the general object of which, was to vindicate the rights of the mulattoes against the whites. His mission was not emancipation.

Mr. BAILY knew, as well as a man could expect to know from general reading, the history of that transaction; and he now repeated, if the gentleman from Virginia had not been present, that he will tell the whites what would have happened if this insurrection had been organized by the abolitionists of England and France. And how did the mulattoes profit? As he was on the other day, after what he had determined to do, he went to see the blacks and the mulattoes, they were not yet satisfied with blood, and at a subsequent period the blacks turned upon the mulattoes themselves, and then that had again been done.

Mr. BROWN of Mississippi, inquired what was the question that was before the House.

The SPEAKER replied, that it was on a motion of the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. PALFREY] to rescind the vote of the 18th of June, 1847, adopting the resolutions congratulating the French on the establishment of a Republican Government.

Mr. BROWN inquired if those resolutions were now before the Senate?

Mr. BAILY asked the gentleman from Massachusetts to yield the floor for explanation.

Mr. PALFREY assented.

Mr. BAILY said he had referred to instances of business in the House. He had been greatly indigoed by some of the remarks of the gentleman from Virginia, [Mr. Bayly], who did not, he was sure, desire to remain under a misapprehension of the state of fact in regard to which he was speaking.

He resolved his seat, he would add one word in regard to the action of the Senate of Virginia respecting his lamented friend, Mr. Adams.

Mr. P. supposed that his colleague [Mr. Ashburn] had not meant to express disapprobation of the conduct of his friend, but he had done so.

"I wonder," said he, "what made you take me for a fool?"

It is inhabited by an old man with his wife, who has the character of being very moral and unsociable. They rarely leave the house, see nobody, and nobody goes to see them; but they are quite enough, and I never heard anything to the contrary. That is all I can say in my dream. Who would wonder if I determined to ascertain whether the coincidences would hold good in every other point? I entered the garden, and went direct to the spot on which I had seen the old man, but here I remained, for fear of being followed. I looked in every direction, examined the whole garden, went round the cottage, which appeared to be uninhabited, although no person was visible, but nevertheless I could find any vestige of a habitation.

I made no attempt to enter the cottage, but hastened about on different subjects. I came to the post, and asked him directly to whom the cottage belonged, that was on a by-road, which I had stirred up to insure protection against the threats of every white man, woman, and child, in the island, except the few that escaped.

Mr. ASHURN wished to correct the gentleman, on the social position of the colored race in Massachusetts, if it had been known that a colored man had ever served on a jury. He (Mr. P.) could not answer that question; but he could tell the gentleman from Virginia how the law of Massachusetts required that a colored man should be no less than a white man, and could, and was obliged to do so.

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I made no attempt to enter the cottage, but hastened about on different subjects. I came to the post, and asked him directly to whom the cottage belonged, that was on a by-road, which I had stirred up to insure protection against the threats of every white man, woman, and child, in the island, except the few that escaped.

Mr. ASHURN wished to correct the gentleman, on the social position of the colored race in Massachusetts, if it had been known that a colored man had ever served on a jury. He (Mr. P.) could not answer that question; but he could tell the gentleman from Virginia how the law of Massachusetts required that a colored man should be no less than a white man, and could, and was obliged to do so.

Mr. BAILY asked the gentleman from Massachusetts to yield the floor for explanation.

Mr. PALFREY assented.

Mr. BAILY said he had referred to instances of business in the House. He had been greatly indigoed by some of the remarks of the gentleman from Virginia, [Mr. Bayly], who did not, he was sure, desire to remain under a misapprehension of the state of fact in regard to which he was speaking.

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